

May 11, 1970

TO: S. A. Milstein, Executive Secretary

FROM: C. T. Black, Environmental Specialist, R & D

SUBJECT: Kirtland Warbler presentation to the Prime Minister of the Bahamas

Following your suggestion, I have endeavored to complete the record about our involvement in the above. I obtained the following from the office of Reverend Hubert G. Locke at Wayne State University.

The occasion was one of the annual Leo M. Franklin Memorial Lectures at Wayne State University. This year the series (five lectures) was on the subject "The World in Revolution." Reverend Locke, Director of Religious Affairs, Wayne State University, was the faculty member in charge of this lecture series for the 1969-70 school year.

Prime Minister Lynden O. Pindling of the Bahamas gave the third lecture in the series, on May 4. His presentation covered problems and progress of the Bahamas and other Caribbean countries achieving status as independent nations.

Governor Milliken had been asked to greet the Prime Minister, and his office had contacted you, seeking suitable ideas, and a gift or token suitable for the occasion. Your idea of the Kirtland Warbler as a suitable tie between Michigan and the Bahamas was deemed very appropriate. I then obtained for the Governor a Kay Petts carving of a Kirtland Warbler donated by the Michigan Audubon Society and a copy of Harold Mayfield's book "The Kirtland Warbler" donated by the Cranbrook Institute of Science, and some pamphlet material on the Kirtland Warbler. The actual carving and book presented were made available by the Lansing Audubon Society on very short notice.

At a dinner before the lecture John Dempsey, an assistant to the Governor, officially greeted the Prime Minister for the State of Michigan and presented him the Kirtland Warbler figure, the book, and the other materials. The

Kirtland Warbler was deemed most appropriate for the occasion, since it was unique in being the only bird shared by the two "states," Michigan and the Bahamas. The Prime Minister was most appreciative of these gifts, and remarked that he prized such tokens far above the usual items a visiting dignitary usually receives on such occasions. He apparently recognized the bird and referred to it by a local dialect name.

CTB:jc

cc: R. A. MacMullan

bcc: C. D. Harris

D. H. Jenkins

D. W. Douglass ✓

William Thompson, Michigan Audubon Society

Warren Wittrey, Cranbrook Institute of Science

Mrs. Kay Petts, Michigan Audubon Society

Robert Whiting, Michigan Audubon Society

Mrs. Richard Brigham, Lansing Audubon Society

George Wallace, Lansing Audubon Society

Miss Miriam Bright, Lansing Audubon Society

DIARY
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SECRET